CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A system for retracting an electronic mail document stored in a mail database of a first Server sent from a sender to a recipient comprising:

a fetch monitor at the first Server for monitoring activity on the mail document and marking the status of the mail document;

a fetch control for issuing a request to retract the mail document to a fetch queue at the first Server; and

a fetcher at the first Server for retrieving the request from the fetch queue, retracting the mail document based on the marked status of the mail document, and reporting the retraction.

2.   The system of claim 1, wherein:

the fetcher reports the retraction by sending a retraction report to the fetch queue; and

the fetch control retrieves the retraction report from the fetch queue.

3.   The system of claim 1 further comprising a fetch log at the first Server for receiving an event report from the fetcher.

4.   The system of claim 1, wherein the fetch control is at the first Server.

5.   The system of claim 1, wherein the fetch control is at a second Server in the same cluster as the first Server.

6.   The system of claim 1, wherein the fetch control is at a second Server in a different cluster as the first Server.

7.   The system of claim 1 further comprising:

a first gateway and a destination fetch control at a first domain, the first domain being the same domain as the first server;

a second gateway at the same Server as and in electronic communication with the fetch control at a second domain;

wherein the a request to retract the mail document is passed from the fetch control to the fetch queue through the first gateway, the second gateway, and the second fetch control.

8.   The system of claim 1, wherein the fetch monitor is a Domino extension manager.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the fetcher is a Domino server add-in task.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein:

the Server has its own means for marking the status of the mail document and the status is changeable by the recipient;

the user can read the mail document through preview mode without affecting the

status;

the user can read the mail document through HTTP without affecting the status; or

the user can replicate the mail document without replicating the status.

11. A method for retracting an electronic mail document stored in a mail database of a first Server sent from a sender to a recipient comprising the steps of:

monitoring activity on the mail document and marking the status of the mail

document using a fetch monitor;

issuing a request to retract the mail document to a fetch queue at the first Server;

retrieving the request from the fetch queue by a fetcher at the first Server;

retracting the mail document based on the marked status of the mail document by

the fetcher; and

reporting the retraction.